

CLAIMS

What I claim is:

1 1. A mark-up tool used in operative cooperation with a
2 computer to allow a user to review and/or alter a plurality
3 of electronic native documents each of which may have
4 different formats and each of which is stored in said
5 computer, said mark-up tool comprising:

6 a) a selector for selecting and retrieving one of
7 said stored plurality of said electronic native documents;

8 b) a converter for changing the format of said
9 selected native document to a common format; and

10 c) an editor for reviewing and/or changing the
11 selected document.

1 2. The mark-up tool according to claim 1 further
2 comprising:

3 a) a re-converter for changing the common format of
4 the selected document back to the format of the selected
5 native document; and

6 b) a director for storing said reconverted selected
7 document into said computer.

1 3. The mark-up tool according to claim 1, wherein said
2 stored native document comprises data and wherein said
3 mark-up tool further comprises a compressor for compressing
4 the data of said native document after it has been changed
5 to said common format.

1 4. The mark-up tool according to claim 1, wherein said
2 common format is of a postscript file.

1 5. The mark-up tool according to claim 1, wherein said
2 mark-up tool comprises programs written in Microsoft (MS)
3 VC++6.0.

1 6. A method used in operative cooperation with a computer
2 to allow a user to review and alter a plurality of
3 electronic native documents, each of which may have a
4 different format and each of which is stored in said
5 computer, said method comprising the steps of:

6 a) selecting and retrieving one of said stored
7 plurality electronic native documents;

8 b) changing the format of said selected native
9 document to a common format; and

10 c) reviewing and changing the selected document.

1 7. The method according to claim 6 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 a) re-converting the changed common format of the
4 selected document back to the format of the selected native
5 document; and

6 b) storing said reconverted selected document into
7 said computer.

1 8. The method according to claim 6, wherein said stored
2 native document comprises data and wherein said method
3 further comprises the step of compressing the data of said
4 selected native document after it has been changed to said
5 common format.

1 9. The method according to claim 6, wherein said common
2 format is of a postscript file.

1 10. The method according to claim 6, wherein said computer
2 further comprises display means, and wherein said method
3 further comprising the steps of:

4 a) providing a mouse for pointing to an area of a
5 document displayed on said display means which is to be
6 reviewed and/or altered;

7 b) using the mouse to point at the top left area of
8 the displayed document to be reviewed and/or altered;
9 c) dragging the now pointer created by the mouse to
10 the bottom right area of the displayed document to be
11 reviewed and/or altered;
12 d) providing a color-coded rectangle surrounding an
13 area encompassed by said dragging;
14 e) releasing the mouse;
15 f) providing a dialog on said display to allow a user
16 to enter alterations to information confined in said color-
17 coded area; and
18 g) entering said alterations.

1 11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said color-
2 coded rectangle is a color selected from the group
3 consisting of blue, green, and red.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein said color-coded
2 rectangle further comprises a strip that is selected from
3 the group consisting of dashed Xs and dashed checks.